

Lenze

ENLARGES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lenze, a global leader and manufacturer of electrical and mechanical drives, motion control and automation technologies, is enlarging its board of directors by adding a fourth member to the current three. This decision firmly positions the company towards the implementation of its 2020+ growth strategy, which aims to fulfil Lenze's strategic priorities and goals until 2020 and beyond.

The newly created domain of directorial responsibility—operations—will be filled by **Jochen Heier**, who will be Chief Operating Officer (COO), effective January 1, 2018. Heier's most recent position was at Yanfeng Automotive Interiors, the world's biggest automotive supplier of interiors. As vice president and general manager for Europe and South Africa, he was responsible for the management, strategic development and expansion of the business. Before that, Heier held managerial positions in a variety of companies, including Johnson Controls, Exide Technologies and Frauenthal Holding AG.



"We are excited to continue fulfilling our 2020+ growth strategy," said Christian Wendler, CEO and chairman of the board of directors, Lenze. "Hiring Jochen means that Lenze has succeeded in appointing an internationally experienced manager with a wide range of competencies in production, supply chain, technology, internationalization and strategy implementation. In the newly created position, Jochen will be instrumental in continuing Lenze's positive development in the area of operations.

"By further expanding our board of directors, we believe we are excellently equipped to master the steadily growing challenges in the machine and plant manufacturing industry and to fully take advantage of the opportunities that are now emerging. Our goal is to keep growing, not only nationally but also internationally, in our three core areas—mechanics, automation systems and solutions, and digital services—and to set Lenze up in a sustainable way for the future," continued Wendler.

The directorial responsibilities of Christian Wendler as CEO and chairman of the board; Dr. Yorck Schmidt as Chief Financial Officer; and Frank Maier as Chief Technology Officer remain unchanged. (www.lenze.com)

Motion Industries

ANNOUNCES EXECUTIVE CHANGES

Motion Industries, Inc. recently announced three management changes, effective December 11, 2017. Tim Breen, Motion Industries president and CEO, announced the following promotions:

Randy Breaux was promoted to executive vice president of marketing, distribution, and purchasing. The increased cooperation among these disciplines allows the company to identify and plan for growing opportunities in the industry such as the industrial internet of things (IIoT) and automation. In 2016, Breaux was promoted to his most recent position of senior vice president of marketing, distribution, and purchasing. He joined Motion Industries in 2011 as senior vice president after 20+ successful years at Baldor Electric Co.



Kevin Storer was promoted to executive vice president of U.S. Operations and president of Mi Mexico, and will maintain responsibility for all field branch sales in the United States and Mexico. This change solidifies his position as the leader for field sales and allows the field to move in an agile, highly coordinated fashion with respect to operating efficiently, as well as seizing future opportunities in a decisive manner. Storer began his career with Motion Industries in the West Group in 1987, and held significant positions in the company before being promoted in 2016 to his most recent position as senior vice president of U.S. Operations and president of Mi Mexico.



Also, **Mark Stoneburner** was promoted to senior vice president of industry segments and business development. The addition of the business development function to Stoneburner's role enables Motion Industries to better leverage his deep industry experience, as well as his strong strategic approach to a growing portion of the company's overall business. He joined Motion Industries in 2016 as corporate account vice president—industry segments, bringing with him 33 years of industry experience. Stoneburner will continue to share responsibility for merger and acquisition (M&A) strategy.



“Our evolving industry offers us the opportunity to be proactive in how we partner with suppliers, how we interact with customers, and how we leverage our greatest asset—our people,” said Breen. “Each of these promotions allows Motion Industries to continue to ensure our leadership position and capitalize on opportunities going forward, which in turn will enhance our customer service even more.” (www.motionindustries.com)

AGMA

OFFICIALLY IACET ACCREDITED

The American Gear Manufacturers Association (AGMA) has been officially accredited by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). Through a rigorous application process guided by the ANSI/IACET Standard, AGMA is now able to offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to students that take a course through them based on identified learning outcomes and delivery of those outcomes.



AGMA's education program has added two additional courses for the 2018 schedule and in addition to working on a Gear Manufacturing or Advance Gear Engineering Certificate, participants will have the opportunity to obtain CEU's based on qualified contact hours for a class. With an expanding program, AGMA is able to provide students a way to measure and quantify the continuing education they are investing in.

“We wanted to provide our students with a quality learning experience by adhering to adult education industry standards and the opportunity to use the education they receive with AGMA for professional development,” said Casandra Blassingame, director of education for AGMA. “Our students are working very hard on their professional goals and we are dedicated to making sure AGMA education counts. Having this accreditation just further proves why our gear classes are the best in the industry and we are excited to have been awarded this ‘Gold Seal’”.

According to IACET, “IACET Accredited Providers are an elite group of educators dedicated to quality in continuing education and training... and have been thoroughly assessed by a third party.” Some of the qualifications for AGMA include: Learning outcomes that are based on identified needs and clearly providing to learners, having established methods to award CEUs and a system to maintain, protect and provide training records, systematically evaluating all learning events and content to ensure they are providing the

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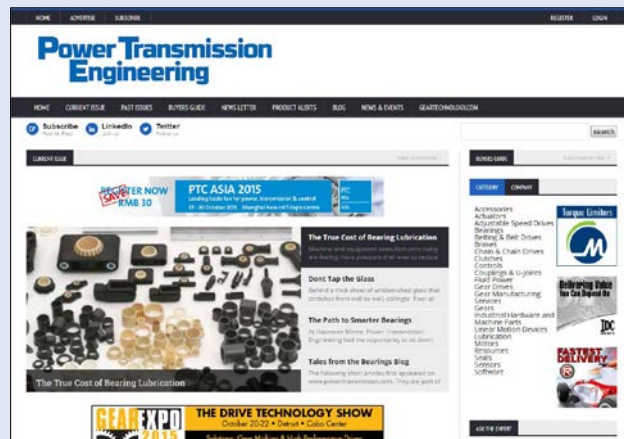
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best possible learning experience, and having qualified personnel planning and conducting their programs.

Students will need to check with their specific regulatory boards and agencies to confirm that the IACET CEUs will be accepted towards maintaining P.E. licensure. AGMA is now included in a list of approved providers on the IACET website. (www.agma.org)

Gear Motions

BEGINS PARTNERSHIP WITH SOUTHEAST INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS

Gear Motions has announced a new partnership with Southeast Industrial Solutions.

SEIS is a professional manufacturers' representative firm, servicing principals with engineering-level coverage for technical, custom products. With over 25 years of experience, SEIS specializes in consultative sales and developing innovative solutions to foster a long-term, collaborative partnership between the manufacturer and customer.

SEIS represents premier manufacturing companies as principals, bringing quality solutions to customers in the Southeast. Since its founding, SEIS already has an impressive list of principals it represents. SEIS services industries such as aerospace, automotive, construction, consumer electronics, industrial, medical, military and defense, mining, nuclear, oil and gas and telecommunications.

The emerging and agile firm strives to deliver personalized services to its principals and customers with engineering-level expertise and professional business practices. As a member of Manufacturers' Agents National Association (MANA), SEIS and its team are encouraged to continuously improve, be involved, and facilitate best practices.

Gear Motions welcomes SEIS and looks forward to introducing their precision gearing products and services to new customers and industries as a result of this partnership.

(www.gearmotions.com)



Continental

EXPANDS RUBBER MIXING OPERATIONS IN NEBRASKA

Technology company Continental has announced a \$9.3 million expansion of the rubber mixing operations at its industrial hose plant in Norfolk, Nebraska, to accommodate its North American manufacturing facilities by providing rubber for industrial hoses and whitewall tires for passenger cars.

"We have plans to add in excess of 19,000 square feet to expand our rubber mixing capabilities and better serve our internal and external customers," said Dan Granatowicz, plant manager. "We anticipate that the expansion will enable us to add in excess of 30 associates. The investment will also reaffirm our commitment as a good corporate citizen to the

Norfolk community and the region as we secure jobs and support the economies of each."



The Northeast Nebraska plant, less than 40 years old, currently employs slightly more than 360 associates. Granatowicz said that construction work will begin immediately and be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2019. The facility primarily manufactures industrial hose and supplies compound for a variety of applications such as general purpose air and water, garden, mining, petroleum, steam and welding hose. The new mixing operations also will enable the plant to supply compound for product-specific whitewall Continental passenger tires.

(www.contitech.us)

Forest City Gear

EARNs WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE CERTIFICATION

Forest City Gear has successfully met the Women's Business Enterprise National Council's standards for certification as a Women's Business Enterprise.

WBENC National WBE Certification validates that the business is owned, controlled, operated, and managed by a woman or women. To achieve WBE Certification, women owned businesses complete a rigorous documentation and site visit process. WBE Certification is an important accreditation recognized by hundreds of WBENC Corporate Members and government agencies, including most major US corporations and federal, state and local government entities.

"Supplier diversity is an increasingly important aspect of the procurement process that Forest City Gear is involved with in the industries we serve, and the WBE Certification gives us critical recognition," says Forest City Gear President and CEO **Wendy Young**. (www.forestcitygear.com)



Gilman Precision

ADDS RICH OLSON TO BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Gilman Precision, manufacturer of customized linear and rotary motion systems, is pleased to announce the addition of **Rich Olson** to their sales force as a business development specialist.



Olson will oversee the Midwest territory in the United States. Through a variety of means, he will play an important part in facilitating the connection between engineers and customers, creating smooth communication, and cultivating positive customer relations. Olson will aid clients by addressing their unique needs and assisting them towards the most efficient route of action to solve their linear or rotary motion challenge.

Doug Biggs, vice president of sales and marketing commented, "We are more than excited to add Rich to our Business Development team. Gilman is continuing to grow, and we believe Rich's skill set and experience will help expand our company even further by creating new opportunities as well as increasing value in customer interactions."

Olson has several years of experience working in the customer service and sales environment, specifically selling marketing and software solutions. Olson values customer care and a strong work ethic, making him a perfect fit for Gilman's team. He is thrilled to join the team in their pursuit to further expand the bands of excellence. (www.gilmanprecision.com)

Bison Gear

WELCOMES ILLINOIS GOVERNOR BRUCE RAUNER

As a follow-up to his visit to Bison Gear & Engineering for National Manufacturing Day in 2014, Governor Rauner took time on Thursday, November 30 to meet with members of the Bison management team. The governor received an up-

date on the state of global competition in the power transmission market and how that is impacting both Bison's operation and other manufacturing facilities in Illinois.

"Bison Gear & Engineering was honored to host Governor Rauner again. Manufacturing is the backbone to the US economy, so we are very pleased that Governor Rauner continues to visit local companies like Bison. Our team provided a first-hand look at the challenges we face and the opportunities that exist within the manufacturing sector in Illinois," said John E. Burch, CEO.

Bison showcased a significant investment made in capital equipment and staffing over the past five years. This investment has allowed the company to add a new product line that addresses shifting customer demand for more efficient gearmotors. "By introducing the PowerSTAR line of right angle gearmotors, Bison was able to develop a hypoid gear box that significantly improves motor efficiency vs. comparable models that operate at only around 40% efficiency. This advancement has allowed our customers to achieve a higher output measure of torque with reduced power demand," said Matt Hanson, vice president of product development.

Governor Rauner toured the plant floor at Bison with Executive Vice President of Operations, George Thomas. The tour highlighted many of the upgrades Bison has made to become more energy efficient and improve environmental impact. "A matching grant from the Illinois Department of Energy has allowed us to bring updated equipment online to address the increasing demand for our PowerSTAR gearmotors and newer lines of energy efficient DC motors," said Thomas.

The governor concluded his visit with a short town hall session for Bison employees. Several topics were covered relating to how his office is working with other branches of government to address the increasing tax burden on Illinois residents. Governor Rauner also spoke about multiple state sponsored programs which have been enacted to improve access for educational programs focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). (www.bisongear.com)

